

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01
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R 281615Z FEB 77
FM USMISSION USBERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4124
AMEMBASSY BONN
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN UNN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USNATO

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E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, PINT WB
SUBJECT: CDU CHARGES SCHUETZ COMMITTED PERJURY, SHOULD RESIGN

REF: USBERLIN 0464

1.DURING LIVELY, AND AT TIMES ACRIMONIOUS, DEBATE IN BERLIN
HOUSE OF REPS ON FEBRUARY 24 ON PERSONAL ROLE OF GOVMAYOR
SCHUETZ IN SCHWAEBL MATTER, CDU CAUCUS LEADER LUMMER CHARGED
THAT BY HIS OWN ADMISSION, SCHUETZ HAD PERJURED HIMSELF
AND THEREFORE SHOULD RESIGN HIS OFFICE. THIS FOLLOWING
ADMISSION BY SCHUETZ THAT IN FACT HE HAD BEEN INFORMED
BY FORMER SENATOR LIEHR ON FEB 2, 1976 THAT THERE WERE
PROBLEMS CONNECTED WITH MOVING SENATOR DIRECTOR SCHWAEBL
FROM DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES
(WHERE HE WAS INVOLVED IN IMBROGLIO OVER QUESTIONABLE PERSONNEL
CHANGES AT KPM PORCELAIN FACTORY) TO MUNICIPAL
SANITATION DEPARTMENT AS PERSONNEL CHIEF. SCHUETZ
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HAD TESTIFIED UNDER OATH TO PARLIAMENTARY INVESTIGATION
COMMISSION IN SUMMER 1976 THAT HE HAD NOT DISCUSSED
MATTER WITH LIEHR UNTIL MID-FEBRAURY 1976. SCHUETZ'S
VOLTE-FACE CAME ABOUT AS RESULT OF "REEXAMINATION OF
APPOINTMENT CALENDARS." LIEHR HAD TOLD COMMISSION
AND SUBSEQUENTLY HAD CONTINUED TO MAINTAIN, THAT HE HAD
WARNED SCHUETZ ABOUT SCHWAEBL PROBLEM ON FEB.2, 1976

BUT THAT GOV MAYOR HAD FAILED TO TAKE ACTION. (COMMENT: LIEHR CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THAT SINCE HIS WARNING TO SCHUETZ WAS TIMELY IT WAS IRONIC AND UNJUST THAT HE WAS FORCED TO RESIGN AS SENATOR TO COVER UP FOR SCHUETZ'S INACTIVITY AND INATTENTION)

2. DURING DEBATE, SCHUETZ COMPLAINED ABOUT CDU'S PERSONAL ATTACKS ON HIM AND REMINDED OPPOSITION THAT QUESTION OF POSSIBLE PERJURY WAS ONE FOR COURTS ALONE TO DECIDE. SDD CAUCUS LEADER HAUS ALSO COMPLAINED ABOUT PERSONAL ATTACKS ON SCHUETZ. FDP CAUCUS CHAIRMAN VETTER DISTANCED HIS PARTY FROM MATTER, NOTING THAT IT CONCERNED QUESTIONS ONLY GOVMAYOR COULD ANSWER.

3. CONSIDERING INCREASING ENNUI WITH WHICH BERLIN PUBLIC REGARDS WHOLE ISSUE OF KPM, SCHWAEBL ET AL, DEBATE RECEIVED SUBSTANTIAL MEDIA COVERAGE, PARTICULARLY FROM SPRINGER PAPERS, TWO OF WHICH, MORGENPOST, AND DIE WELT, EDITORIALIZED THAT COURT SHOULD SOON CONSIDER QUESTION OF SCHUETZ PERJURY.

4. FORMER MAYOR OXFORD, WHO TWO WEEKS AGO HAD CALLED UPON SCHUETZ TO REPUDIATE HIS APPARENT SUPPORT FOR SCHWAEBL, EXPRESSED HIMSELF "SATISFIED" WITH GOVMAYOR'S PERFORMANCE. EX-SENATOR LIEHR, HOWEVER, DEMONSTRATED HIS CONTINUING UNHAPPINESS BY BEING ONLY SPD MEMBER NOT TO APPLAUD SCHUETZ WHEN LATTER FINISHED STATEMENT AT OUTSET OF DEBATE.

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5. ACCORDING TO TAGESSPIEGEL OF FEBRUARY 26, BERLIN ATTORNEY GENERAL HAS ASKED FOR COPY OF OFFICIAL HOUSE OF REPS RECORDS OF SESSION ON FEBRUARY 24 TO EXAMINE SCHUETZ'S STATEMENT AND TO COMPARE IT WITH HIS TESTIMONY BEFORE PARLIAMENTARY COMMISSION. SCHUETZ CALLED THIS "COMPLETELY NORMAL MATTER". SENAT SPOKESMAN STRUVE TOLD PAPER THAT SCHUETZ TESTIMONY LAST SUMMER WAS PREFACED WITH STATEMENT THAT IT WAS TO THE BEST OF HIS RECOLLECTION. STRUVE ADDED THAT ATTORNEY GENERAL'S ACTION WAS APPROPRIATE AND "WELCOMED BY THE SENAT."
GEORGE

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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TAGS: PGOV, PINT, WB, (SCHUETZ, KLAUS)
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